

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BANGUI 01000 291147Z

53

ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-11 AID-20 COME-00 SWF-02

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SCI-06 IO-14 DRC-01

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R 291045Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5069

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

UNCLAS BANGUI 1000

YAOUNDE FOR RDO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, CT

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURE RESEARCH PROJECT

REF BANGUI 0940; STATE 158186

1. UNDP RESREP HAS ASKED US PARTICIPATION COMPREHENSIVE MEDIUM TERM PROJECT TO STAFF EXISTING CAR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATIONS AND TO DEVELOP LOCAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CAPABILITY. UNDP WILL PROVIDE PROJECT DIRECTOR, SOME STAFF AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT, SCHOLARSHIPS, MATERIALS AND VEHICLES. GOCAR WILL PROVIDE HOUSING, JUNIOR STAFF, TRAINEES, LABORERS, LAND, AND STATIONS. UNDP AND GOCAR REQUEST USG ASSISTANCE IN PROVISION OF THREE AGRICULTURAL SCIENTISTS TO IMPLEMENT TECHNICAL/SCIENTIFIC ASPECTS OVOF PROJECT.

2. PORJECT COSTS: UNDP \$684,840; GOCAR 229,216,000 CFA (\$955,066) WHEN \$1-240CFA); US AID REQUESTED TO PROVIDE THREE EXPERTS FOR A PERIOD OF FOUR YEARS.

3. PROJECT OBJECTIVES: A. DEVELOPMENT OF PLANT COLLECTION, INTRODUCTION OF NEW SPECIES, ADAPTATION OF MIRACLE GRAINS TO LOCAL ENVIRONMENT. B. DEVELOPMENT OF HIGH QUALITY SEED FOR SEED MULTIPLICATION. (COMMENT: THIS ASPECT OF PROJECT SHOULD NOT BE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BANGUI 01000 291147Z

CONFUSED WITH SEED MULTIPLICATION PROJECT (BANGUI 0'40) WHICH

IS ENTIRELY SEPARATE PROJECT. TWO PROJECTS HAVE DIRECT LINK IN THAT RESEARCH STATIONS ARE CHARGED A WITH GENETIC DEVELOPMENT AND SELECTION OF THE SEEDS THAT WILL BE MULTIPLIED BY SEED PROJECT). C. DEVELOPMENT OF OPTIMAL PLANTS AND CULTIVATION TECHNIQUES FOR SORGHUM, MAIZE, RICE, PEANUTS, SESAME, SOYBEANS, MANIOC, POTATOES, AVOCADOES, MANGOS, PINEAPPLES AND OTHERAR FRUITS. D. FERTILIZER AND SOIL STUDIES FOR ABOVE CROPS. E. CONTROL OF INSECTS AND PLANT DISEASE. F. TRAINING OF CENTRAL AFRICANS IN ALL ASPECTS OF OPERATION. INCLUDES OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIPS AND ON-THE-JOB-TRAINING.

4. JOB DESCRIPTIONS FOR REQUESTED U.S. EXPERTS, ALL OF WHOM SHOULD HAVE FLUENT FRENCH, FOLLOW. A. AGRICULTURAL ENGINEER TO BE IN CHARTE OF DEVELOPMENT OF PLANT COLLECTION SORGHUM, RICE, MAIZE, SESAME, PEANUTS, SOYBEANS AND MANIOC AT BOSSANGOA. JOB ENTAILS SELECTION, BREEDING, TESTING OF PLANTS FOR YIELD AND DISEASE RESISTANCE; SEED DEVELOPMENT AND PURITY CONTROL; STUDIES OF PROPER INSECTICDE AND FERTILIZER USE. B. PLANT TECHNICIAN FOR BAMBARI TO CONCENTRATE ON SOIL FERTILITY STUDIES; USE OF VARIOUS TYPES OF FERTILIZER; CROP ROTATION; MIXED CROPPING; SOIL REGENERATION AND CULTIVATION TECHNIQUES. C. HORTICULTURE EXPERT FOR BOUAR TO BE IN CHARGE OF RESEARCH PROGRAM FOR VEGETABLES AND FRUITS SUCH AS GREEN BEANS, CUCUMBERS, TOMATOES, MELONS, STRAWBERRIES, PINEAPPLES AND MANGOS. DEVELOPMENT OF STRONG DISEASE RESISTANT STRAINS, IMPROVEMENT OF FERTILIZER USE, PAEST CONTROL AND CULTIVATION TECHNIQUES.

5. EMBASSY FULL SUPPORTS PROJECT AND URGES FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION BY AID. AS 85 PERCENT CAR POPULATION POOR RURAL AGRICULTURALISTS, CREATION OF ADEQUATE RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE FOR DEVELOPMENT TESTING, LOCALIZING GRAIN, VEGETABLE FRUIT CROPS REQUIRED IF BENEFITS OF GREEN REVOLUTION ARE TO COME TO CAR. IMPORVED RESEARCH CAPABILITY WOULD RESULT IN IMPROVED QUANTITY, QUALITY OF FOOD. PROJECT FUNDING DESIGN ADVANTAGEOUS TO US IN THAT OUR RELATIVELY SMALL CONTRIBUTION OF THREE EXPERTS WOULD HAVE MAXIMUM IMPACT. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT PROJECT MEETS CRITERIA SET FORTH STATE 156186 AS MEDIUM RANGE PROJECT DESIGNED TO INCREASE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN SUB-SAHALIAN AREAS. PROJECT ALSO MEETS CRITERION PARA SIX OF STATE 158186 COCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS WITH MAJORITY OF STAFF AVAILABLE

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 BANGUI 01000 291147Z

LOCALLY THROUGH NON-USG AGENCIES, I.E. UNDP, FAO, AND HOST GOVERNMENT.

6. PROJECT DOCUMENT POUCHED RDO YAOUNDE FOR COMMENT AND FORWARDING TO WASHINGTON. DALE

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